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REMARKS

The Office Action of March 16, 2005 has been received and both the Examiner's comments and references cited therein carefully considered. In the Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1, 7, 11, and 17 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kenney; claim 10 was objected to because of informalities; and claims 1 – 21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Goserud in view of Harwell et al.

In response to the Office Action, base claim 1 has been amended to more clearly define applicant's invention and to distinguish the prior art. Now recited in claim 1 is a frame including a first sheet member having a transparent top wall portion with an inner top wall surface and an outer planar top wall surface defined by rectilinear connected edges, and a top side wall portion aligned with each of the rectilinear connected edges other than a particular one thereof. Also recited is a second sheet member having a bottom wall portion with an inner bottom wall surface and an outer planar bottom wall surface defined by rectilinear joined edges extending parallel to the connected edges, and a bottom sidewall portion extending outwardly from said inner bottom wall surface and disposed parallel to and inwardly laterally

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adjacent to each of the top side wall portions so as to form between the inner top wall surface and the inner bottom wall surface a closed cavity accessible through an opening adjacent to the particular connected edge. After insertion through the opening of a display sheet, the frame can be mounted in a suitable location.

Applicant believes that the cited prior art fails to anticipate amended claim 1.

Kenney discloses a print holder having transparent pieces 11, 12 with raised edges 22 joined to form a pocket 26 with an upper opening 28. However, neither of the pieces has a planar outer surface. To the contrary, each piece includes a base portion 16 projecting outwardly from its outer surface.

Regarding the rejection on Goserud in view of Harwell et al, applicant submits that no obvious modification of Goserud in view of Harwell et al would anticipate amended base claim 1. Any obvious modification of the references as suggested by the Examiner would entail the attachment to Goserud's sheet members, of, respectively, the outwardly directed flanges 25 and 30 of Harwell et al. Such a modification would not anticipate the planar outer wall surfaces now recited in claims 1 – 21. Any modification of Goserud in view of Harwell et al not including the outwardly directed flanges 25, 30 would be unobvious in that their usefulness is clearly disclosed by Harwell et al as noted by the Examiner.

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Applicant's planar outer surfaces provide a display frame with advantages for its intended use which is significantly different than the use intended for Harwell et al's device. The frame can be easily attached and removed from display surfaces with the use of convenient fastening means such as Velcro® and the like. Also, for shipping and storage a maximum number of frames can be stacked in a given volume. In addition, the absence of oppositely directed flanges permits production of frames by a thermoforming process rather than molding thereby reducing cost and facilitating a thin, pliable part which is easily inserted into envelopes and packages for shipping. In view of the foregoing, applicant believes that amended claim 1 now is clearly allowable.

Claims 2 – 21 all are dependent on base claim 1 and recite additional patentably distinct features of applicant's invention not disclosed by the prior art. For example only, claims 6, 9, 10, 16, and 19-21 recite dimensional structural features not shown nor suggested by the prior art. Applicant believes the dependent claims also are allowable.

Applicant has submitted herewith Fig. 7 with proposed changes in red for the Examiner's approval.

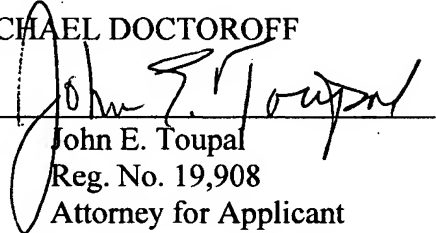
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In view of the above amendments and remarks, applicant now believes that this application is in condition for allowance. Such action is most respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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I hereby certify that this AMENDMENT is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: MAIL STOP AMENDMENT, NO FEE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on:

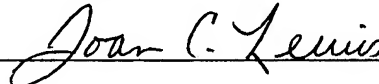
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